

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER AND GARDENS
570 WEST AVENUE TWENTY-SIX
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90065
PHONE (323) 221-8900 FAX (323) 221-9001



MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 25, 2002

1. Call to Order.

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Michael Berger, at 7:37 p.m. on March 25, 2002 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty Six, Los Angeles, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Hal Ross, Steve Treanor, Jonathan Zasloff, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Woody Smeck, Russell Guiney, David Allgood, and Steve Horn. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Ed Begley, Jr.

The following Legislative member designees were present: Laura Plotkin, Mary Sue Maurer, Kevin Rudiger, and Scott Svonkin. The following Legislative member designees was absent: Michael Miiller. The following Legislative member designee was present subsequent to roll call: Susan McEntire.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Dave Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Bruce Crow, Lesley Devine, Terre Hirsch, Mark Johnson, Barry Read, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Richard Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Paul Rockenstein, Thomas Seifert, Nancy Steele, Marc Stirdivant, Kenneth Warner, Timothy Wendler, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Joan House, Lee T. Bycel, and Nancy Stephens.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Acting Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; MRCA staff: Reva Concoff, Deputy Executive Officer

and Chief of Operations; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Kathleen Bullard, Director of Los Angeles River Center; Elsa Luna, Chief of Finance and Administration; Stephanie Landregan, Landscape Architect; Juliet Chung, Associate Governmental Program Analyst; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst, Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

4. Minutes.

The minutes of February 25, 2002 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of February 25, 2002 were approved as submitted.

5. Reports.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Chung.

[Ms. McEntire arrived at 7:45 p.m.]

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Edelman.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei and the Chair.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Bullard.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle.

Comments were made by Ms. Bullard and Mr. Lange.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Bullard and Ms. Skei.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

6. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Celia Burman, representing the Rally to Save Ahmanson Ranch, regarding item 7(k).

7. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant augmentation to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of Malibu Canyon Western Viewshed (Adamson property), Malibu.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in augmentation of the Rocky Pointe acquisition grant (SMM891).**
- (c) Consideration of resolution authorizing amendments to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 2001-2002 budget.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Cornfield State Park Advisory Committee.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution entering into an agreement with New Millennium Homes to implement portions of the 1990 "Wildlife Corridor Agreement" with Village Properties, Tentative Tract No. 35596, Calabasas.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to perform pre-acquisition services in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize a grant to the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition for design and construction of a bicycle maintenance station at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority establish an in-lieu fee program to accept funds to acquire properties containing Lyon's pentachaeta plants and their habitat.**

- (i) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on the United States Forest Service Management Plan for the Angeles National Forest.**
- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the California Coastal Commission on the Draft City of Malibu Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan.**
- (k) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for Ahmanson Ranch Phase "A" Master Tract Map (TT-5206), Ventura County.**

Items 7(c), 7(d), and 7(k) were removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 02-32, 02-33, 02-36, 02-37, 02-38, 02-39, 02-40, 02-41, and 02-42.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 02-32, 02-33, 02-36, 02-37, 02-38, 02-39, 02-40, 02-41, and 02-42.

(The full text of these resolutions are attached.)

7c. Consideration of resolution authorizing amendments to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 2001-2002 budget.

Comments were made by Ms. Divine.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-34.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-34.

7(d). Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Cornfield State Park Advisory Committee.

Comments were made by Ms. McEntire.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-35.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-35.

8. Presentation and discussion regarding the development of a non profit organization to generate support for Conservancy programs.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Plotkin.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Plotkin.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge.

[Mr. Portantino left at 8:12 p.m.]

Comments were made by Messrs. Daniel, Ross.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Lethbridge, and Ms. Mikos.

9. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept monetary donations for the Westridge/Mandeville overlook parking lot and trailhead improvements and authorizing any budget amendments necessary.

Comments were made by Ms. Landregan.

[Mr. Begley arrived at 8:20 p.m.]

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-43.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-43.

10. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in augmentation of the Tuna Canyon acquisition with a Proposition 12 grant.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

Questions were propounded by Ms. McEntire.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins, Ms. Skei, and Ms. Luna.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

Questions were propounded by Ms. McEntire.

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Comments were made by Ms. Collins, and Messrs. Corridori, and Brown.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-44.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-44.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle, Ms. Goldberg, and Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

- 11. Consideration of resolution authorizing the release of an appeal to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Tentative Tract No. 48086, Spring Canyon project, unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley and recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into an agreement with Shadow Pine Partners LLC. to accept the related open space dedication and permanent maintenance funding.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-45

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-45.

- 7(k). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for Ahmanson Ranch Phase "A" Master Tract Map (TT-5206), Ventura County.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Svonkin.

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Comments were made by Mr. Edelman, Ms. McEntire, the Chair, and the Executive Director.

Questions were made by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Plotkin, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Devine, Ms. Maurer, Ms. Cheadle, Ms. Steele, Ms. Mikos, Messrs. Brown and Begley, and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Palmer.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Ms. Devine, Ms. Maurer, and Messrs. Corridori and Read.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

This item was postponed to a later date.

- 12. Consideration of resolution establishing a grant program for application by local governments and nonprofit organizations to construct park, recreation, and related improvements for projects identified in the Conservancy's adopted workprogram, authorizing the Executive Director to hold workshops with affected stakeholders in order to develop procedures and criteria for such program, and directing that such procedures and criteria be returned to the Conservancy for final adoption.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

- 13. Consideration of resolution establishing a Verdugo Mountains/La Crescenta Valley Trails and Access Improvement Program element within the Conservancy workprogram and requesting the assistance of all affected jurisdictions in developing and implementing a coordinated trails and access program for the area.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

[Mr. Rudiger left at 9:50 p.m.]

14. Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire a 26 acre parcel located in Upper Ramirez Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, APN 4465-005-019, from Charleen Kabrin *et al.*

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(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant Section 11126(c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)

Comments were made by Mr. Brown and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Maurer and the Executive Director.

This item was further discussed in closed session.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-48.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-48.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire 54 acres in Upper Ramirez Canyon, Los Angeles County (APN 4465-04-064) from Meadow Peak Inc., and reallocating Ramirez Canyon addition (SMM589) funds, to acquire said properties. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant Section 11126(c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)*

This item was heard in closed session.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Robinson, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-49

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-49.

(The full text of this resolution is attached.)

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- 16. Closed Session:** (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy v. City of Los Angeles, a charter city and Department of Water and Power; Save Open Space v. County of Ventura (Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Real Parties in Interest); Tucker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.; City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al. ; Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.; Los Amigos de Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Nervik v. State of California; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and Sierra Club et al. v. County of Los Angeles; State of California, ex rel. Andrea Tuttle, Director of Department of Forestry and Fire Protection v. Southern California Edison Company.*

The Chair called a closed session at 10:20 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 Subdivision (a)(1) to discuss agenda items 14 and 15 and litigation between *Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*

The Chair reconvened the open session at 10:26 p.m. and announced that the Conservancy received a report on agenda items 14 and 15 and litigation between *Mirharooni v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*

17. Members comments on matters not on the Agenda.

Comments were made by Ms. Maurer regarding moving this item to earlier in the meeting on subsequent agendas.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by Mr. Rockenstein, Ms. Palmer, Mr. Daniel, and the Chair.

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18. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on April 22, 2002.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER
Chair